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30. Herbarium Suggestions.—No. 2. *Cases for specimens*.—Fire-proof apartments and cases fixed to the walls are usually attainable only by Colleges and other public institutions ; although, to their shame be it said, they are often too penurious to provide such necessary protection to invaluable collections, that, once destroyed, could never be replaced.

The amateur botanist must be content with humbler accommodations. In ordering the cases to contain his collection, he has to determine the material of which they are to be made, their external dimensions, the number and size of the compartments, etc. ; bearing in mind that they should not be so large and unwieldy that they cannot readily be moved if necessity requires ; that they should be of such a shape that others may be added to their number as his collection increases ; and that the compartments should be within easy reach of the hand and properly adapted to the size of his sheets.

After trying cases of different forms and sizes, my own experience leads me to recommend the following dimensions, which are particularly adapted to the genus-covers previously suggested, viz. : 18 × 20 inches, but which will answer for sheets smaller in either direction by about an inch.

Material.—Black walnut externally, one inch in thickness and well-seasoned. Internally, pine or other light wood.

External dimensions.—Width, four feet, six inches. Height, three feet, seven and a half inches. Depth, twenty-one inches.

Internal arrangement.—Depth in the clear, nineteen inches.

Four series of compartments, side to side, of twelve each ; forty-eight compartments to each case

Each compartment twelve and six-tenths inches wide, and three inches high.

Doors.—Two in number, meeting in the centre ; each three feet, five and a half inches high by two feet, two and a half inches wide, and panelled.

It will be a great convenience to have each shelf cut out at its centre in a semi-lunar form, so as to facilitate raising the sheets above it between the fingers.

If two of these cases be placed one upon the other, the upper compartments of the higher one will still be within reach by stepping upon an ordinary chair. Any greater height requiring the use of a step ladder is better avoided, for obvious reasons.

The height, above recommended, of each compartment, viz., three inches, is less than that usually adopted in large herbaria, in which five inches are about the common standard ; but for herbaria of moderate size, I think the former measurement preferable, to avoid crowding a number of small natural families together.

A case like the above will cost, at the present time, in New York City, about forty-five dollars, but can doubtless be made cheaper in the country. About five dollars will be saved by having the exterior of pine wood.

F. J. B.

31. *Viola rostrata*, Pursh.—We recently detected this fine violet in a rocky glen among the hills back of South Orange, N. J. It is